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NORTH CAROLINA

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# Farm Report

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QUESTIONS PERTINENT TO THIS ISSUE

1. WHAT WAS THE TOTAL FLUE-CURED TOBACCO DISAPPEARANCE DURING THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30?
2. COMPARE JULY CHICK PRODUCTION WITH JULY 1949.
3. REVIEW NORTH CAROLINA PRICES RECEIVED INDEX.
4. DISCUSS CHANGES IN PRICES PAID FOR CLOTHING ITEMS.
5. DID FEED PRICES INCREASE OR DECREASE IN AUGUST?
6. WHAT IS THE ESTIMATED SIZE OF THE N. C. TURKEY CROP?
7. COMPARE 1949 CASH FARM MARKETING RECEIPTS WITH 1948 RECEIPTS.
8. DISCUSS THE PROSPECTIVE COMMERCIAL APPLE CROP.
9. DID PRICES PAID BY FARMERS INCREASE OR DECREASE FROM JULY TO AUGUST?

No. 68

RALEIGH, N. C.

SEPTEMBER 5, 1950

## AGRICULTURAL PRICES AND OTHER CURRENT ITEMS

### HATCHERY OUTPUT RECORD FOR JULY

The number of chicks produced by commercial hatcheries in North Carolina totaled 3,389,000 during July. This is the highest output of record for the month and exceeded July production of last year by 13 percent. Although hatchings were down 13 percent from the previous month, the decline was much smaller than the usual seasonal drop. The July total output of chicks was 82 percent greater than the 5-year (1944-48) average.

Demand for chicks by commercial broiler producers was strong during the month. July placements in the Chatham-Wilkes Commercial Broiler areas were up almost 40 percent over placements during the same month last year.

Hatchings during the first seven months of 1950 totaled 36,676,000 chicks -- an increase of 9.5 percent over the 33,494,000 chicks produced by commercial hatcheries in the State during the same period last year.

### TO RECIPIENTS OF THIS PUBLICATION

This Farm Report was initiated three years ago on a trial basis. No appropriation was available. The anticipated improvements offered over the usual mimeographed news releases have been well proven. It now becomes a matter of justifying the expense of this publication.

We are desirous of learning what percent of the 9,000 recipients will notice this item. If only 10% comply with this request, it may mean that less than 20% give the publication much attention. Still if it is even casually looked through its publication may be justified.

The Legislative Budget Committee wants evidence of such justification. So do we. So would you. How about sending us a simple one cent postal card expressing your interest in or need for this publication? Better still, tell us how to improve it.

### FLUE-CURED TOBACCO DISAPPEARANCE SECOND HIGHEST OF RECORD

Total disappearance of flue-cured tobacco during the year ending June 30, 1950, was 1,168 million pounds; 6 percent higher than in 1948-49 and the second highest on record. A rise in exports together with a small increase in domestic use were responsible for the larger total disappearance over last year. Domestic use in 1949-50 was close to 723 million pounds compared with 715 million in 1948-49 -- the previous high point.

It appears likely that total disappearance in 1950-51 may be above that of 1949-50. Cigarette consumption in this country will probably top the high of fiscal 1949-50. This is the major outlet for flue-cured tobacco. Foreign demand for flue-cured is strong and 1950-51 exports may be almost as large as in 1949-50 if international developments do not interfere. The consumption trend for tobacco abroad continues to be toward cigarettes with many preferring those using U. S. tobacco. (See table on page 4)

### RECORD TURKEY CROP IN PROSPECT

North Carolina's 1950 turkey crop is estimated at 583,000 birds - 20 percent more than last year and 112 percent above the 1937-46 average. August 1 reports from growers indicate that on that date they had the largest number of turkeys of record on hand.

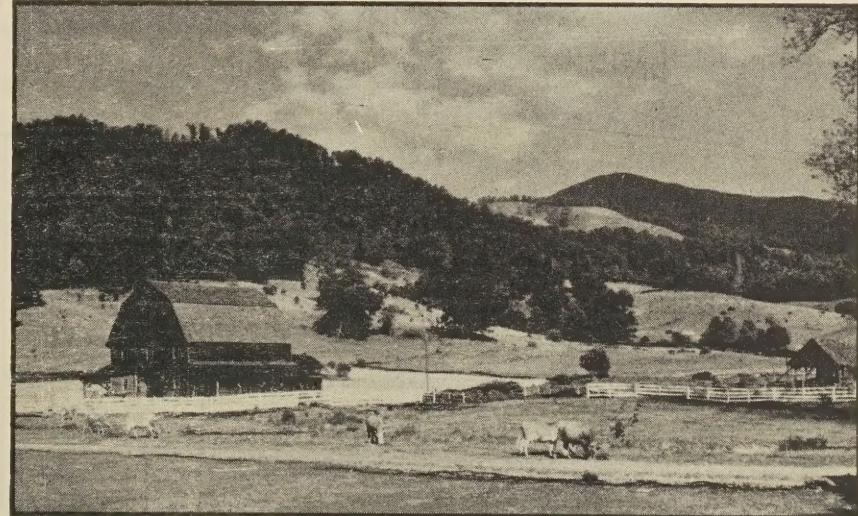
The August 1 report of turkeys on hand was the same as growers indicated on January 1 they planned to produce this year. This is the second consecutive year in which turkey numbers have increased sharply.

Turkey growers indicate they intend to market their crop earlier this year. In the South Atlantic States, growers indicate that over 31 percent of their production will be marketed during or before October this year compared with 27 percent a year ago and over 67 percent of the crop will be marketed prior to December.

Across the Nation farmers are raising a record crop of 44,550,000 turkeys this year -- 6 percent more than last year and 1 percent above the previous peak production of 1945.

(Continued on Page 4)

### WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA FARM SCENE



## N. C. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX UP 19 POINTS

The "All Farm Products" index of prices received by North Carolina farmers at local markets increased from 251 as of July 15 to 270 as of August 15, an increase of 19 points or 7.6 percent.

The current "All Farm Products" index of prices received of 270 compares with an index of 241 on August 15, 1949 and an index of 268 on August 15, 1947 (see table below).

With the exception of meat animals, the index of prices received for all commodity groups increased during the month ended August 15.

The grains commodity index increased 8 points as the result of increased prices being received for corn, wheat, oats and rye.

The increase of 11 points in the cotton and cottonseed index was due to a rise of 1.3 cents in cotton and \$4.00 per ton increase in the price of cottonseed.

The index for type 13 tobacco stood at 508 percent of the 1909-14 base period price.

The meat animals index at 402 remained the same as last month. Increased prices for veal calves and sheep were not sufficient to offset slightly lower prices for hogs, beef cattle and lambs.

The poultry index increased 23 points, or 11 percent, as the result of increased prices for both chickens and eggs.

The dairy products index increased two points. Whole sale milk increased five cents per hundred, butter and butterfat increased one cent per pound.

The index of prices received for miscellaneous commodities increased 21 points during the month ended August 15. A rise in the price of peanuts, potatoes and sweet-potatoes more than offset decreased prices for other products in the miscellaneous group.

## PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS AUGUST 15, 1950

## WITH COMPARISONS

COMMODITY	UNIT	NORTH CAROLINA		U. S.
		JULY 15 1950	AUGUST 15 1950	AUGUST 15 1950
- DOLLARS -				
CORN.....	Bu.	1.58	1.66	1.44
WHEAT.....	Bu.	2.08	2.15	1.97
OATS.....	Bu.	.84	.85	.706
BARLEY.....	Bu.	1.24	1.20	1.12
RYE.....	Bu.	1.90	2.08	1.25
SOYBEANS.....	Bu.	2.50	2.20	2.42
COWPEAS.....	Bu.	5.00	4.50	3.87
PEANUTS.....	Lb.	.122	.123	.110
TOBACCO.....	Lb.	.342	.355	.531 b/
COTTONSEED.....	Ton	50.00	54.00	70.90
WOOL.....	Lb.	.51	.51	.583
HOGS.....	Cwt.	21.50	21.40	21.60
BEEF CATTLE.....	Cwt.	21.00	20.90	24.10
VEAL CALVES.....	Cwt.	25.60	26.70	27.40
SHEEP.....	Cwt.	10.50	10.80	10.90
LAMBS.....	Cwt.	25.40	24.00	24.90
MILK COWS.....	HEAD	148.00	142.00	202.00
CHICKENS.....	Lb.	.270	.276	.254
EGGS.....	Doz.	.408	.466	.380
MILK. WHLSE.....	Cwt.	4.55	4.60	3.73
Retail.....	Qt.	.20	.200	.185
BUTTER.....	Lb.	.54	.55	.569
BUTTERFAT.....	Lb.	.51	.52	.603
HAY, ALL BALED.....	Ton	28.50	28.50	20.20
POTATOES.....	Bu.	.80	1.55	1.22
SWEET POTATOES.....	Bu.	2.30	2.55	2.18
APPLES COMMERCIAL.....	Bu.	2.00	1.80	2.34
LESPEDEZA SEED.....	Cwt.	9.70	9.50	7.73
KOREAN.....	Cwt.	7.40	7.40	-
KOBE.....	Cwt.	11.70	11.30	-
COM. & TENN. 76.....	Cwt.	18.30	18.30	-
SERICEA.....	Cwt.	19.50	19.50	-

a/ Type 13

b/ 11-37

Hay supplies will be the most liberal of record per hay-consuming animal. Carryover of hay is about average while the new crop of 105 million tons is 5 million tons above average.

## COMPARISON OF U. S. PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS AND PARITY PRICES

COMMODITY	PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS		PARITY OR COMPARABLE PRICES		AVERAGE PRICES AS PERCENTAGE OF PARITY	
	JULY 15 1950	AUG. 15 1950	JULY 15 1950	AUG. 15 1950	JULY 15 1950	AUG. 15 1950
- DOLLARS -						
COTTON, LB.....	.331	.370	.310	.313	107	118
WHEAT, BU.....	1.99	1.97	2.21	2.23	90	89
CORN, BU.....	1.44	1.44	1.60	1.62	90	89
OATS, BU.....	.763	.706	.948 d/	.960	80	74
BARLEY, BU.....	1.15	1.12	1.47 d/	1.48 d/	78	76
RYE, BU.....	1.26	1.25	1.71 d/	1.72 d/	74	73
BEEF CATTLE CWT.	24.50	24.10	17.40	17.50	141	138
HOGS, CWT.....	21.50	21.60	19.30	19.40	111	111
LAMBS, CWT.....	24.60	24.90	19.10	19.30	129	129
CHICKENS, LB.....	.234	.254	.292	.294	80	86
EGGS, DOZ. ....	.342	.38	.511 d/	.515 d/	69 a/	72 a/
MILK, WHLSE, CWT.	3.58 c/	3.73 b/	4.43	4.46	87 a/	85 a/

a. Percentage of seasonally adjusted prices to parity prices

b. Preliminary

c. Revised

d. Transitional parity, 95 percent of parity price computed under formula in use prior to January 1, 1950.

PRICES RECEIVED AND PAID BOTH UP  
PARITY RATIO UNCHANGED

Sharply higher prices for cotton and cottonseed together with higher prices for dairy and poultry products raised the Index of Prices Received by Farmers 4 points during the month. At 267 percent of its January 1910-December 1914 average, the index was 1.5 percent above a month ago and 9.4 percent above a year ago and the highest since November 1948 when it was at the same level. However, the all crop index at 239 was 14 points higher than in November 1948 and the livestock and products index at 292 was 14 points lower.

In addition to the higher prices for cotton, cottonseed, poultry and dairy products; rice, dry edible beans, wool, and all meat animals except beef cattle also showed increases over a month ago. On the down side were most other grains, soybeans, flaxseed, potatoes, and fruits.

The Parity Index (Prices Paid, Interest, Taxes and Wage Rates) rose 2 more points this month as increases in prices paid by farmers for food, clothing, and shelter lifted rural living costs. Retail prices of production goods averaged the same on August 15 as a month earlier. Rates paid for interest, taxes, and hired help also were steady. At 258 in mid-August, the Parity Index was up about 3½ percent from a year earlier and at the highest level recorded since November 1948.

The Parity Ratio remained at 103 percent as increases occurred in both the prices received and prices paid by farmers indexes.

## NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES INDEX NUMBERS

(N.C. PRICES RECEIVED 1909-14 = 100 PERCENT)

COMMODITY	JULY 15 1950	AUG. 15 1950	AUG. 15 1949	AUG. 15 1948	AUG. 15 1947
	NORTH CAROLINA INDEX NUMBERS				
ALL FARM PRODUCTS..	251	270	241	265	268
COTTON & COTTONSEED	263	274	238	260	274
GRAINS.....	181	189	170	204	223
MEAT ANIMALS.....	402	402	348	418	347
POULTRY.....	217	240	270	282	273
DAIRY PRODUCTS.....	220	222	221	237	218
TOBACCO.....	508	453	496	413	413
MISCELLANEOUS.....	223	244	222	237	241
RATIO OF PRICES RECEIVED TO PAID-a	98	105	99	106	115
UNITED STATES INDEX NUMBERS					
PRICES RECEIVED....	263	267	245	293	276
PRICES PAID	256	258	243	251	234
INTEREST & TAXES..	256	258	243	251	234
RATIO OF PRICES RECEIVED TO PAID..	103	103	101	117	118

a. Ratio of N. C. prices received to U. S. prices paid.

## AVERAGE PRICES PAID BY NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES FARMERS FOR SPECIFIED CLOTHING ITEMS WITH COMPARISONS 1949-50

ITEMS	UNIT	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
		MAR. 15 1950	JUNE 15 1950	JUNE 15 1949	MAR. 15 1950	JUNE 15 1950	JUNE 15 1949
- DOLLARS -							
SUITS, WOOL, 1 PAIR PANTS.....	EACH	34.50	36.00	37.00	39.80	39.50	40.10
EXTRA TROUSERS, WOOLEN.....	PAIR	9.10	9.20	9.40	10.00	9.83	9.96
TROUSERS, COTTON.....	PAIR	3.25	3.55	3.35	3.48	3.60	3.48
OVERALLS.....	PAIR	2.80	2.85	2.85	2.98	2.98	2.97
SHIRTS, COTTON, WORK.....	EACH	1.95	1.85	1.95	1.77	1.76	1.75
SOCKS, COTTON, WORK.....	PAIR	.26	.25	.26	.268	.264	.263
UNDERSHIRTS.....	EACH	-	.57	-	-	-	-
SHORTS.....	EACH	-	.70	-	-	-	-
SHOES, WORK, MEN'S.....	PAIR	5.60	5.50	5.60	5.92	5.97	5.93
BOOTS, RUBBER, KNEE-LENGTH.....	PAIR	5.10	5.20	5.10	5.25	5.27	5.18
DRESSES, HOUSE, PERCALE.....	EACH	2.80	2.80	2.95	2.90	2.93	3.01
STEP-INS OR PANTIES, RAYON.....	PAIR	.59	.58	.62	.635	.634	.662
SHOES OR OXFORDS, WOMEN'S.....	PAIR	4.70	4.80	4.90	4.99	4.93	4.89
MUSLIN, UNBLEACHED 36" WIDE.....	YARD	.25	.25	.26	-	-	.291
PERCALE, 36" WIDE.....	YARD	.42	.43	.46	.43	.428	.439

## CLOTHING PRICES DROP BELOW PRICES PAID LAST YEAR

The average prices North Carolina farmers paid for specified clothing articles on June 15 were down slightly from the previous year for all items except cotton trousers and rubber boots. These two articles showed a slight increase in price.

Compared with prices paid on March 15 of this year, however, seven of the specified clothing articles showed an increase in price. Men's wool suits were up \$1.50 each but other increases were slight (see table above).

## FEED PRICES INCREASE

Average prices paid by North Carolina farmers for high protein and grain by-product feeds increased during the month ending August 15. Tankage meat scrap prices increased \$.70 per hundred pounds over the price paid a month earlier and all other feeds showed an increase of five to fifteen cents per hundredweight.

U. S. feed prices followed rather closely the changes in prices paid by North Carolina farmers except that U. S. prices for bran and middlings were down from the previous month whereas North Carolina prices were up for these items. Soybean meal also declined slightly during the month, reflecting seasonal adjustments to a new crop basis.

## FEED PRICES PAID BY FARMERS AUGUST 15, 1950

## WITH COMPARISONS

FEED PER HUNDREDWEIGHT	NORTH CAROLINA		UNITED STATES	
	JULY 15, 1950	AUGUST 15, 1950	JULY 15, 1950	AUGUST 15, 1950
- DOLLARS -				
MIXED DAIRY FEED				
ALL KINDS.....	-	3.90	3.77	3.82
16% PROTEIN.....	3.60	3.65	3.64	3.69
18% PROTEIN.....	3.75	3.85	3.77	3.82
20% PROTEIN.....	4.05	4.10	3.91	3.95
HIGH PROTEIN FEEDS				
COTTONSEED MEAL...	3.85	3.95	4.10	4.48
LINSEED MEAL.....	-	-	4.42	4.51
SOYBEAN MEAL.....	-	4.95	5.16	5.01
TANKAGE MEAT SCRAP	6.00	6.70	6.33	6.98
GRAIN BY-PRODUCTS				
BRAN.....	3.50	3.65	3.32	3.19
MIDDLEDINGS.....	3.80	3.85	3.66	3.48
CORN MEAL.....	4.35	4.50	3.63	3.66
CORN GLUTEN.....	-	-	3.47	3.50
POULTRY FEED				
LAYING MASH.....	4.95	5.10	4.67	4.74
SCRATCH GRAIN...	4.35	4.50	4.04	4.06

## U. S. APPLE CROP DOWN 12 PERCENT

Commercial apple production for 1950 is forecast at 118,227,000 bushels -- 12 percent less than last year but 8 percent above average. This report includes preliminary estimates for the principal apple varieties by regions for 1950 and revised estimates for 1949.

Summer apples are estimated at 5,289,000 bushels -- 23 percent less than the 1949 crop. California Gravensteins, at 1,596,000 bushels, account for 30 percent of the U. S. 1950 summer commercial crop. Last year California Gravensteins turned out 3,022,000 bushels and were 44 percent of the total summer crop.

Fall apples at 15,026,000 bushels comprise 13 percent of the commercial crop. Last year this group totalled 18,661,000 bushels and was 14 percent of all commercial production. The three most important fall varieties are forecast as follows: Jonathan 6,753,000 bushels, Grimes Golden 2,582,000 bushels and Wealthy 2,482,000 bushels. All three are down from last year by 34 percent, 15 percent and 6 percent respectively.

This group totals 97,912,000 bushels for 1950 compared with 108,213,000 bushels for 1949. Delicious are indicated at 24,415,000 bushels -- 12 percent less than last year. In both years, Delicious are about a fifth of all commercial apples. The western States have prospects for 19,157,000 bushels of Delicious -- 8 percent less than last year.

Winesap is the second variety in importance this year with a forecast of 13,478,000 bushels -- up 9 percent from 1949. McIntosh is third in importance with 12,015,000 bushels -- down 16 percent. Rome Beauty is estimated at 6,959,000 bushels -- down 17 percent from last year. Production is about the same in the West but down in all other regions.

A heavy crop of York Imperial is in prospect, 6,530,000 bushels compared with 4,622,000 bushels last year. Yorks are grown mostly in the four States of Pennsylvania, Maryland and the Virginias. Baldwins are forecast at 5,282,000 bushels, about the same as last year. Practically all Baldwins are grown in New York, New England, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Michigan. Staymans at 5,109,000 bushels are 5 percent less than 1949. Yellow Newtown or Albemarle Pipkin are forecast at 4,450,000 bushels compared with 5,010,-000 bushels last year. Practically all of these apples are produced in Oregon, California, Washington and Virginia.

Production of other leading varieties and changes from last year are forecast as follows: Golden Delicious 2,893,000 bushels, 17 percent less; Cortland 2,289,000 bushels; 27 percent less; Northern Spy 2,266,000 bushels; 15 percent less; Ben Davis 2,162,000 bushels, 21 percent less; and Rhode Island Greening 2,069,000 bushels, 47 percent less.

## FARM REPORT

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FARM REPORT

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### NORTH CAROLINA FARMER'S CASH RECEIPTS BY COMMODITIES, 1948-49

COMMODITY	1948	1949
	1,000 DOLLARS	1,000 DOLLARS
LIVESTOCK AND PRODUCTS...	152,994	145,985
DAIRY PRODUCTS.....	37,587	36,948
HOGS.....	34,774	33,418
Eggs.....	25,192	27,580
CHICKENS (INCL. BROILERS).....	28,151	26,217
CATTLE, CALVES.....	22,730	17,860
TURKEYS.....	2,601	2,845
OTHER 1/.....	1,959	1,117
CROPS.....	630,097	559,661
FIELD CROPS:		
TOBACCO.....	377,272	359,264
COTTON LINT.....	106,012	84,088
PEANUTS.....	31,600	27,705
CORN.....	19,650	15,655
COTTONSEED.....	15,232	7,677
POTATOES.....	11,560	7,349
SOYBEANS.....	7,157	6,797
WHEAT.....	9,218	6,564
SWEETPOTATOES.....	5,147	4,426
HAY.....	2,862	3,322
OATS.....	2,583	2,453
LESPEDAZA SEED.....	3,012	2,269
SORGO SYRUP.....	538	606
TRUCK CROPS.....	15,053	12,635
OTHER 2/.....	903	769
FRUITS AND TREE NUTS:		
PEACHES.....	3,236	2,776
STRAWBERRIES.....	1,935	1,643
APPLES.....	2,472	1,360
PECANS.....	427	522
OTHER 3/.....	973	725
OTHER PRODUCTS:		
FOREST.....	10,635	8,535
GREENHOUSE, NURSERY.....	2,620	2,521
ALL COMMODITIES.....	783,091	705,646
GOVERNMENT PAYMENTS.....	7,905	7,557
TOTAL CASH RECEIPTS.....	790,996	713,203

1/ Honey, sheep and lambs, mules, wool beeswax, horses, other poultry.  
 2/ Barley, rye, cowpeas, sorghums for grain, buckwheat.  
 3/ Grapes, cherries, pears, figs, plums, other berries.

Milk output the first half of 1950 topped the same period of last year by 2 percent, and there is a good chance that production for the whole year will set a new record.

### FARM RECEIPTS DECLINE IN 1949

Cash receipts from farm marketings of crops, livestock and products by farmers in North Carolina during 1949 were 9.9 percent less than in 1948 not including government payments. The greatest decline in cash receipts occurred in returns from crop marketings which were 11.2 percent below 1948. Cash receipts from livestock and products were 4.6 percent less than in 1948.

### WOOL PRODUCTION UP

The quantity of wool shorn in North Carolina this year is estimated at 189,000 pounds—an increase of 31 percent over 1949 production but 12 percent below the ten-year (1939-48) average.

The average weight per fleece is estimated at 5.4 pounds compared with 4.8 pounds last year and a ten-year average weight of 5.1 pounds. The number of sheep shorn at 35,000 was up 17 percent from last year.

### RECORD TURKEY CROP (Continued)

This is the second year turkey production has increased since the profitable small crop of 32 million in 1948, which brought the highest prices of record.

Record high turkey prices during the first half of 1949 with a 26 percent drop in feed prices from 1948, encouraged turkey growers to increase their 1949 turkey production by 32 percent. A decline of 23 percent in turkey prices from 1948 during

the 1949 marketing season was partially offset by a 12 percent drop in feed prices. Despite these lower turkey prices, growers expressed their intentions on January 1 to raise about the same number of turkeys this year as last. With an abundance of cheaper pouls, slightly lower feed prices during the hatching season and firmness in the market, growers decided to increase their turkey production in 1950.

### DOMESTIC SUPPLIES, DISAPPEARANCE, AND SEASON AVERAGE PRICE OF FLUE-CURED TOBACCO, TYPES 11-14

YEAR	PRODUCTION	STOCKS JULY 1	SUPPLY	DISAPPEARANCE 1/ TOTAL DOMESTIC 2/ EXPORTS 2/			AVERAGE PRICE PER POUND
				MIL.LB.	MIL.LB.	MIL.LB.	
AV. 1934-38							
1939	1,171	946	2,117	704	338	366	22.9
1940	760	1,410	2,170	707	417	290	14.9
1941	650	1,593	2,243	577	421	156	16.4
1942	812	1,460	2,272	783	492	291	28.1
1943	790	1,379	2,169	893	604	289	38.4
1944	1,087	1,189	2,276	1,150	696	454	40.2
1945	1,173	1,126	2,299	1,152	665	487	43.6
1946	1,352	1,147	2,499	1,212	660	552	48.3
1947	1,317	1,287	2,604	1,054	695	359	41.2
1948	1,090	1,550	2,640	1,102	715	387	49.6
1949 2/	1,115	1,538	2,653	1,168	723	445	47.2
1950 2/	1,146	1,485	2,631				

1/ Year beginning July 1. 2/ Subject to revision.